



April 3, 2007

Mr. Mitchell Lazarus
Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth, PLC
1300 North 17th St. 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Dayton (Oh) Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team. Additionally, as one of the Regional Directors of the National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA), I represent numerous tactical units in the eastern states with similar safety and tactical concerns. As you are aware the NTOA is working with the Technical Support Working Group (TSWG) on several projects to enhance citizen, officer and suspect safety. Specifically, Commander Sid Heal, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office, is working with TSWG on the *Garage Door Overmaster*, which is a device that remotely opens garage doors.

Although the current rules governing the use of garage door openers are limited to approximately a five second burst, I respectfully request an exception to this rule in the cases of police emergencies for the following reasons:

- Such a device would reduce the risk of injury or death to potential hostages, citizens, police officers and suspects.
- Such a device would allow entry into a location without causing physical damage.
- Such a device would be utilized only to facilitate safe entry subsequent to obtaining search and arrest warrants or under the most hazardous and exigent situations in order to save human lives, i.e., hostage rescues.
- Such a device would provide important tactical advantage for high-risk warrant services and in dealing with barricaded suspects who are actively resisting lawful arrest.
- Given the severity of the situations in which it would *be* beneficial, the use of such a device would be infrequent, as other methods have proven successful under less hazardous circumstances. Having this capability will enhance the ability to save lives.

If you desire to contact me reference this matter, I can be reached at my Office, 937-333-8950, or my Cell, 937-901-4477.

Sincerely,

Robert Crivello

Commander, Special Weapons and Tactics
Dayton Police Department